



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PRESS RELEASE

KENYA REINFORCES THE SILENCING OF THE GUNS IN AFRICA CAMPAIGN THROUGH THE AMISOM TCCs CONSULTATIONS

The African Union Mission to Somalia's (AMISOM) Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) held an informal consultative meeting, in Nairobi, to discuss AMISOM's Engagement in and with Somalia Post-2021. The meeting was held from **July 10th to 11th, 2021** and brought in technical experts from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.

The Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, **Amb. Macharia KAMAU**, who was the convener of the informal consultative meeting, welcomed and commended the continuous engagements of the AMISOM troop contributing countries in the Somalia Peace Process, highlighting the Mission's pivotal role in advancing the peace process and the stabilization of Somalia. Amb. Macharia Kamau further paid tribute to the efforts and endeavour of AMISOM whose deployment was not just essential to the pursuit of the region's peace and security, but was also consistent with continental campaign of **"Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020"**, a campaign that was aimed at achieving a peaceful and conflict-free Africa. The Principal Secretary invited the gathered participants to critically interrogate and deliberate on the African Union's Independent Assessment Report on AMISOM's Engagement in and with Somalia – Post-2021 – noting that a consistent and coherent messaging was essential in AU's subsequent engagements with the international community on matters of the Somalia Peace Process.

In the ensuing deliberations, the Technical Experts of the AMISOM TCCs observed that the containment of threats to peace and security in Somalia still existed. In particular, the technical



experts regretted that Somalia had become a threat to international peace and security due to chronic instability in that country, a situation that had been worsened by and nourished the existence of terroristic elements in Somalia. Likewise, the experts singled out the Al Shaabab terror group as a major challenge to Somalia, to the region and to the broader international community. It is imperative for international efforts to be deployed, as envisaged in the United Nations Charter, to effectively contain this threat to international peace and security.

In this respect, the Technical Experts recognized and paid tribute to AMISOM troops for their courage, valor and professionalism in reducing the threat caused by the Al Shaabab – and other armed groups – which had in turn contributed to the stability of Somalia and the functioning of its government. Similarly, they paid homage to the AMISOM troops who had paid the ultimate price in securing peace and stability in Somalia.

The Technical Experts welcomed the African Union’s Independent Assessment report on AMISOM’s Engagement in and with Somalia Post-2021 and noted the options that it had generated in regards to AMISOM’s engagements in Somalia, Post 2021. While noting the limitations of some of the recommendations, the AMISOM TCCs’ Technical Experts nonetheless welcomed the proposal to transition AMISOM into an AU-UN Multidimensional Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AU-UNMIS), where AMISOM would fully transition into a multidimensional stabilization mission in Somalia deployed under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

In addressing the challenges of the coordination between the AU and the broader international community, the Technical Experts further called for joint consultations to be undertaken jointly by the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the United Nations (UN), the Troop and Police Contributing Countries (TPCs), the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMS) before the end of the current AMISOM mandate on December 31st, 2021.

The Technical Experts of the AMISOM TCCs agreed to adopt a common position and approach in the discussions at the African Union, on the African Union’s Independent Assessment Report on AMISOM’s Engagement in and with Somalia – Post-2021.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Nairobi.**

July 12th, 2021.

